IN THE CLAIMS

Please note that the following claims have been renumbered to correct the erroneous assignment of the same number to more than one claim. Please amend the renumbered claims as follows:

55. A xylanase comprising a basic amino acid at position 144, said position determined from sequence alignment of said modified xylanase with *Trichoderma reesei* xylanase II amino acid sequence defined in SEQ ID NO:16.

56. The xylanase of claim 55, wherein said basic amino acid is Arg.

57. A xylanase comprising an acidic amino acid at position 11, a non-polar amino acid at position 116, and a basic amino acid at position 144, said position determined from sequence alignment of said modified xylanase with *Trichoderma reesei* xylanase II amino acid sequence defined in SEQ ID NO. :16

58. The xylanase of claim 57, wherein said acidic amino acid is Asp, said non-polar amino acid is Gly, and said basic amino acid is Arg.

59. A xylanase comprising an acidic amino acid at position 11, a non-aromatic hydrophobic

amino acid at position 118, and a basic amino acid at position at position 144, said position determined from sequence alignment of said modified xylanase with *Trichoderma reesei* xylanase II amino acid sequence defined in SEQ ID NO:16.

60. The xylanase of claim 59, wherein said acidic amino acid is Asp, said non-aromatic hydrophobic amino acid is Cys, and said basic amino acid is Arg.

61. A modified xylanase comprising at least one substituted amino acid residue, wherein said modified xylanase is characterized as having a maximum effective temperature (MET) between about 69°C to about 84°C, and wherein said modified xylanase is a Family 11 xylanase obtained from a Trichoderma sp..

62. The modified xylanase of claim 61, wherein said MET is between about 70° to about 84°C.

63. A modified xylanase comprising at least one substituted amino acid residue, wherein said modified xylanase is characterized as having a maximum effective pH (MEP) between about pH 5.8 to about pH 8.4, and wherein said modified xylanase is a Family 11 xylanase obtained from a *Trichoderma* sp..

64. The modified xylanase of claim 63, wherein said MEP is between about pH 6.0 to about